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SEG newsrelease
Society of Exploration Geophysicists

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MONTHLY SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(Month of March, 1990)

According to the Society of Exploration Geophysicists' latest report, the number of seismic land crews and marine vessels searching for oil and gas in the U.S. and U.S. waters increased during March in spite of reports from several contractors that crews were idled because of unusually heavy rain in the central U.S.. The land crew total increased by seven to 107, and the marine crew increased by one for a total of 128 crews and vessels.

The March total (128) represents an increase of 6% over last month, a 1% decrease from March, 1989, a 52% decrease from March, 1988, an 17% decrease from March, 1987, an 88 % decrease from March, 1986, a 203% decrease from March, 1985, and **a decrease of 268% from the same month in 1984.**

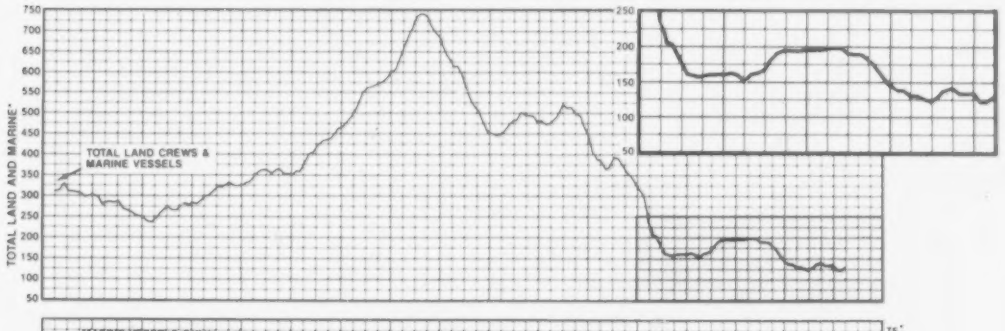
During March, two contractors were operating two of the 98 land crews and none of the nineteen marine vessels on a speculative basis.

TOTAL LAND & MARINE CREWS:	This Month	Last Month	Mar.'89	Mar.'88	Mar.'87	Mar.'86	Mar.'85	Mar.'84
	128	120	129	194	150	240	388	471

	LAND CREWS								MARINE VESSELS							
	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Mar. 1989	Mar. 1988	Mar. 1987	Mar. 1986	Mar. 1985	Mar. 1984	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Mar. 1989	Mar. 1988	Mar. 1987	Mar. 1986	Mar. 1985	Mar. 1984
34 Contr's:	98	91	99	150	118	185	306	386	19	18	18	25	15	23	40	39
5 Oil Co's:	9	9	9	15	14	27	34	38	2	2	3	4	3	5	7	8
0 Gov't:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
TOTALS	107	100	108	165	132	212	340	424	21	20	21	29	18	28	48	47

SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)


TOTAL LAND AND MARINE*
TOTAL LAND CREWS & MARINE VESSELS
MARINE VESSELS ONLY**
MARINE
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1974 1975 1976 1977 1978 1979 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1985 1986 1987 1988 1989 1990

*Use left hand vertical scale for Total Land Crews and Marine Vessels. **Use right hand vertical scale for Marine Vessels only.

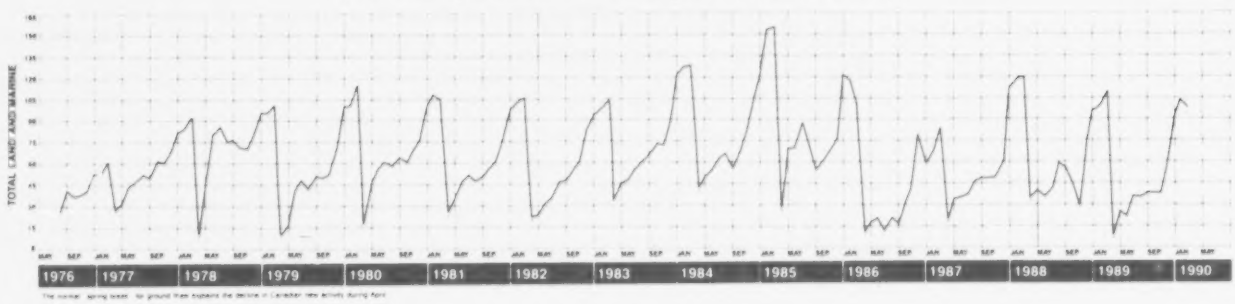
*Results of SEG's Seismic Crew Count of land and marine vessels engaged in exploration for oil and gas in the USA and USA waters, including Alaska, for the month indicated. These figures are compiled from data reported by oil companies operating company-owned seismic exploration crews and vessels and by contract seismic exploration companies. Special significance is attached to seismic crew activity since it is recognized as the leading indicator of all petroleum exploration activity.

CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT

March, 1990 (February figures in parentheses)

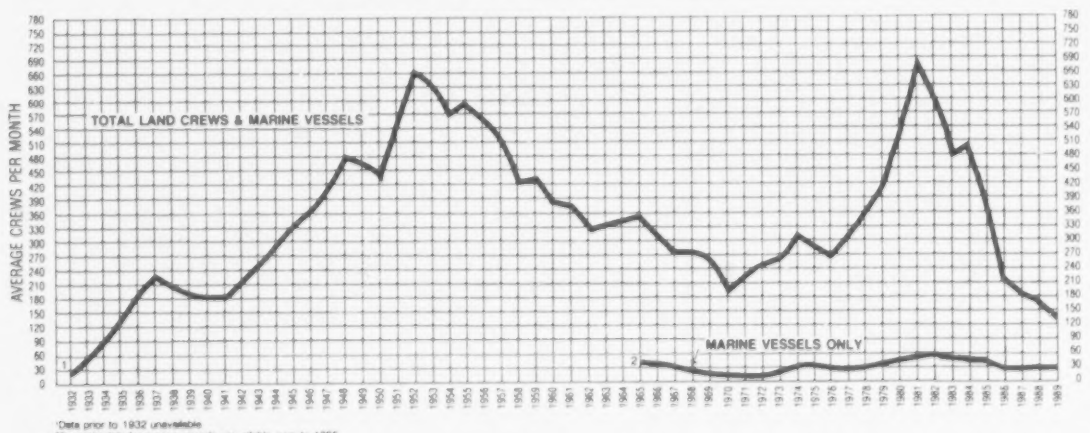
	Land Crews	Marine Crews
30 Contractors:	97 (102)	0 (0)
1 Oil Company:	1 (1)	0 (0)
Totals:	98 (103)	0 (0)

CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT
(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)



SEG's monthly USA Seismic Crew survey was instigated in 1974 at the request of the United States' Federal Energy Administration. The report is currently submitted to the U.S. Department of Energy.

HISTORY OF SEISMIC EXPLORATION IN THE UNITED STATES
(Seismic crews searching for oil & gas.)



¹Data prior to 1932 unavailable.
²Separate data for marine vessels unavailable prior to 1965.